

THREE ROADSIDE GRASSES AS RECORDS FOR SACRAMENTO, EL DORADO, AND PLACER COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA.—The following grasses occur on gravelly to sandy road-shoulders or on roadbanks of similar texture. Seldom, if at all, do they penetrate beyond into areas where competition is greater and summer moisture is wanting. Two major highways, Interstate Highway 80 (U.S. Highway 40) and U.S. Highway 50 in the area east of Sacramento are the subject of this study. Collections were made during July and August, 1967 unless otherwise noted. The two perennial species at all locations are in the second, third, or more year's growth. All collections cited are by the author and are deposited in AHUC.

*Panicum hillmanii* Chase. This grass readily spreads by the large panicles which break away from the stem and are carried by the wind as "tumbleweeds." The plant extends through Sacramento County along both highways to the Placer and El Dorado county lines (8135, 8136, 8143, 8169, 8173). Currently, the best stand occurs along Interstate Highway 80 between Arden Way and Marconi Avenue in Sacramento.

*Sporobolus cryptandrus* (Torr.) A. Gray. The commonest grass of the three occurring along both highways into the Sierra Nevada to about 3000 feet elevation (8142, 8144, 8145, 8146, 8148, 8156, 8157, 8158, 8163, 8165, 8166, 8171). The grass was first noted in Sacramento County near the Nimbus Road exit, U.S. Highway 50, June 3, 1965 (7363).

*Chloris verticillata* Nutt. The unique inflorescence of this grass readily disarticulates as a unit from the stem below the radiating spikes and behaves as a tumbleweed facilitating its spread along roadshoulders. It occurs along Interstate Highway 80 from east of Sacramento about the 1500 ft. elevation in the Sierra Nevada (8164, 8170, 8172, 8177, 8178). A single collection was made along U.S. Highway 50, 2.5 miles west of Shingle Springs in El Dorado County (8147). At nearly all locations the grass occurs in association with *Sporobolus cryptandrus* and *Eremocarpus setigerus* Benth. At one location between Sacramento and Roseville the grass appears to be in at least the third season of growth.—BECHEER CRAMPTON, Department of Agronomy, University of California, Davis.

A NEW FAMILY OF VASCULAR PLANTS (PSILOACEAE) FOR ARIZONA.—Sycamore Canyon located about twenty miles west of Nogales in Santa Cruz County, Arizona, has long been noted for its interesting and unusual flora (Goodding, Jour. N. Y. Bot. Gard. 47:86-97. 1946; Jour. Ariz. Acad. 1:113-115. 1961). It is the type locality for *Fraxinus gooddingii* Little which is found outside the canyon only in the adjacent Peña Blanca drainage area. Several Mexican species *Dalea lagopus* (Cav.) Willd., *Lotus alamosanus* (Rose) Gentry, and *Passiflora bryonioides* H.B.K., are found in the United States only in Sycamore Canyon; likewise, *Asplenium exiguum* Bedd, known from Asia, and Northern Mexico, occurs in Sycamore and Garden Canyons in Arizona. Several other species, including *Dichondra sericea* Sw., *Aloysia lycioides* Cham., *Tilandsia recurvata* L., and *Aeschynomene villosa* Poir. having irregular, disjunct distributions, grow in this rugged and picturesque area.

A recent find in Sycamore Canyon adds a new family and order to the known flora of Arizona. *Psilotum nudum* (L.) Griseb. was collected by Mr. Jack Kaiser of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, from a rock crevasse on a protected west exposure. This locality is about 300 miles north of the closest known population in Sonora, Mexico, as reported by Gentry (Carnegie Inst. Pub. 527:328. 1942), and is many miles north and west of the areas near Chihuahua, in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico (Knoblock and Correll, Conr. Texas Res. Found. 3:198. 1962). The closest recorded locality for *Psilotum* in the United States is Hardin County in eastern Texas (Knoblock, Wrightia 2:163-165. 1961).

The specimen is on file in the University of Arizona Herbarium. This paper is Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station Journal Article number 1329.—CHARLES T. MASON, JR., Herbarium, The University of Arizona, Tucson.